

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 JUSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 (ISO) W
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R 180807Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5800

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6916

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP PGOV KS US
SUBJ: DISCUSSION WITH ROK FOREIGN MINISTER

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH CHARGE AUGUST 17, FOREIGN MINISTER INDICATED COMPLETE SATISFACTION WITH HIS AFRICAN TRIP. THE ONLY SPECIFIC EVENT THAT HE MENTIONED WAS HIS CONVERSATION WITH BONGO DURING WHICH BONGO SAID THAT KIM IL SONG HAD OFFERED HIM ASSISTANCE IN EXCHANGE FOR TERMINATION OF GABON-ROK RELATIONS. BONGO, ACCORDING TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER, REFUSED THE OFFER.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO RAISED THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:
(A) HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PUBLICATION IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES OF THE REPORT ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN VERY EMBARRASSING TO HIM. DESPITE MY PROTESTATIONS TO THE CONTRARY, HE STILL SEEMED TO BELIEVE THAT IT HAD BEEN AN INTENTIONAL LEAK.

(B) HE ONCE AGAIN MENTIONED TO ME THE ROK UNHAPPINESS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SUBPOENAS. HE SAID THAT HE IS UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO RAISE THE ISSUE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OR APPLY SIMILAR ACTIONS TO AMERICAN OFFICIAL BANK ACCOUNTS IN SEOUL (SEE SEOUL 6534 AND SEOUL 6787). HE STRESSED THAT SO FAR MOFA
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HAD BEEN ABLE TO RESIST THESE PRESSURES. HE SEEMED SURPRISED WHEN I TOLD HIM THAT WE CONSIDER BANK RECORDS TO BE THE PROPERTY OF THE BANKS AND NOT OF THE DEPOSITORS.

(C) HE ALSO SHOWED CONCERN FOR A DIRECT US-NK DIALOGUE,

WHICH I TRIED TO ALLAY BY QUOTING OUR POSITION ON THIS
MATTER.

3. THE FACT THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER MENTIONED THESE ITEMS
TO ME SUGGESTS THAT HE AT LEAST STILL FEELS SOME
UNEASINESS ABOUT THE U.S. AND ITS ACTIVITIES.
STERN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 18-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Film Number: D770298-0251
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770848/aaaaboln.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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